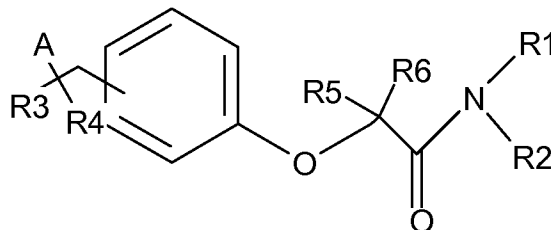


In the Claims. Applicants request amendment of the Claims prior to any action on the merits. The following listing of the claims shall replace all previous versions.

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A Compound of the structural formula I:

Formula I



(a) ~~R1 is hydrogen; or R1 and R2 together form a ring selected from the group consisting of piperidine, piperazine, and dihydroisoquinoline wherein said piperidine, piperazine and dihydroisoquinoline is unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of C1-C4 alkyl, phenyl, halophenyl, trifluoromethylphenyl, methylphenyl, acetophenyl, benzyl, halobenzyl, benzoyl, halobenzoyl, trifluoromethylbenzyl, methylbenzoyl, methoxybenzoyl, acetylbenzoyl, biphenylmethylene, (phenyl)(halophenyl)methylene, and bihalophenylmethylene.~~

(a) ~~R1' and R2'~~ are each independently selected from a group consisting of C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, arylC₀-C₂alkoxy, haloC₁-C₃alkyl, halo, aryl, -C(O)C₁-C₅alkyl, -C(O)-aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, arylC₁-C₅alkyl, and biarylC₁-C₅alkyl; and which -C(O)-aryl is unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C₁-C₅ alkyl, haloC₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, and -C(O)C₁-C₅alkyl; and which C₁-C₅ alkyl, arylC₁-C₅alkyl, biarylC₁-C₅alkyl, and aryl are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C₁-C₈alkyl, aryl, haloC₁-C₅ alkyl, trihaloC₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₅alkoxy, and arylC₁-C₅alkyl; and which aryl is unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each

independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C₁-C₈alkyl, aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkyl, trihaloC₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₅alkoxy, and arylC₁-C₅alkyl;

(b) R₂ is selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, aryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, ~~heteroaryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, heteroC₄-C₆cycloalkylaryl, heteroC₄-C₆cycloalkylarylC₁-C₄alkyl,~~ aminoneC₁-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkylaryl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, arylheteroC₁-C₈alkyl, C₀₋₄-alkyl-C(O)heteroC₁-C₈alkyl, -CH(C(O)OCH₃)benzyl, and -CH₂-C(O)-R_{15''}-R_{16''}, and which C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, aryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, ~~heteroC₄-C₆cycloalkylaryl, heteroC₄-C₆cycloalkylarylC₁-C₄alkyl, heteroaryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl,~~ aminoC₁-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkylaryl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, arylheteroC₁-C₈alkyl, C₀₋₄-alkyl-C(O)heteroC₁-C₈alkyl, and -CH₂-C(O)-R_{15''}-R_{16''} are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R₂';

(c) R_{15''} is O or NH;

(d) R_{16''} is C₁-C₂ alkyl or benzyl which C₁-C₂ alkyl and benzyl are each unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R₁₆';

~~(e) R₁ and R₂ together may form a heterocyclic ring which heterocyclic ring is unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R₁' and which heterocyclic ring is optionally fused with an aryl;~~

~~(f)~~(e) R₇' and R_{7''} are each independently selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₄ alkyl and C₁-C₄ haloalkyl;

~~(g)~~(f) n and m are each independently selected from the group consisting of 0, 1, 2 and 3;

~~(h)~~(g) A is selected from the group consisting of (CH₂)_m COOR₁₄, C₁-C₃alkylnitrile, carboxamide, sulfonamide, acylsulfonamide and tetrazole, and which sulfonamide, acylsulfonamide and tetrazole are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of A';

~~(i)~~(h) A' is a group consisting of C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, heteroaryl, and aryl, and wherein heteroaryl and aryl are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ haloalkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, and -C(O) C₁-C₅ alkyl;

~~(i)~~(i) R₃ is selected from the group consisting of H, C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkenyl, and C₁-C₆ alkoxy;

~~(k)~~(j) R₄ is selected from the group consisting of H, halo, C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, aryl C₀-C₄ alkyl, and C₀₋₄alkoxyaryl, and which C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, aryl C₀-C₄ alkyl, and C₀₋₄alkoxyaryl are each independently unsubstituted or each independently substituted with from one to four substituents each independently selected from R₄'; or R₃ and R₄ are combined to form a C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl;

~~(k)~~(k) R₅ and R₆ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₈ alkyl, aryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, heteroaryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkylaryl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, and -CH₂-C(O)-R₁₇-R₁₈, and which C₁-C₈ alkyl, aryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, heteroaryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkylaryl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, and -CH₂-C(O)-R₁₇-R₁₈ are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to four substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R₅';

~~(m)~~(l) R₄', R₅', and R₁₃' are each independently a group consisting of C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, C₁-C₅ haloalkyl, C₁-C₅ haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, CHO, hydroxy, C₁-C₄ alkanolic acid, phenyl, aryloxy, SO₂R₇', SR₇', arylC₀-C₂alkoxy, C₁-C₆alkylcarboxamido, and COOH;

~~(n)~~(m) R₁₆' is a group consisting of halo, C₁-C₈alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, trihaloC₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₅alkoxy, and arylC₁-C₅alkyl;

~~(n)~~(n) R₁₇ and R₁₈ are each independently selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, aryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, heteroaryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkylaryl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, and C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl-C₀₋₂-alkyl;

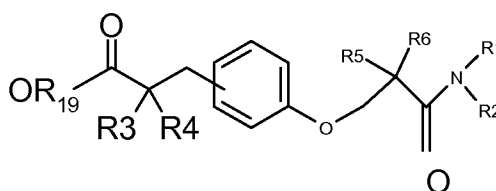
~~(p)~~(o) R14 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C4alkyl, aryl, and arylmethyl, and which C1-C4alkyl are each independently unsubstituted or independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R13' and which arylmethyl and aryl are each independently unsubstituted or independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R14';

~~(q)~~(p) R13' is a group consisting of C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, C₁-C₅ haloalkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, aryloxy, halo, aryl, -C(O)C₁-C₅alkyl, -C(O)-aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, aryl C₁-C₅ alkyl, and C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and which -C(O)aryl, aryl, aryl C₁-C₅ alkyl, and C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R13''; and

~~(r)~~(q) R14' is a group consisting of halo, C1-C8alkyl, C₁-C₅ haloalkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, and arylC₀-C₄alkyl; or

~~(s)~~(r) a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

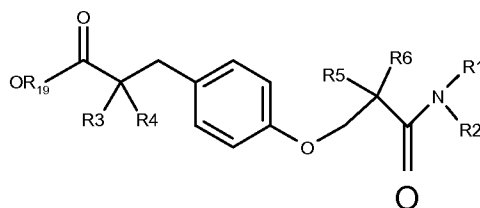
2. (Original) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 of the structural Formula II:



II

wherein R19 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C4alkyl, aryl, and arylmethyl, wherein the alkyl, aryl and arylmethyl are each unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from R14'.

3. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed by ~~Claim~~Claims 2 that is of the following structural formula III:



III

wherein R19 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C4alkyl, aryl, and arylmethyl, wherein the alkyl, aryl and arylmethyl are each unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from R14'.

4. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein R1 is hydrogen:-

5. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 4 wherein R2 is selected from the group consisting of arylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₈ alkyl, heteroarylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, C₀-C₄alkyl-C(O)-heteroC₁-C₈ alkyl, arylheteroC₁-C₈alkyl, wherein each of said R2 is unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of phenyl, halophenyl, phenoxy, halo, haloC₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, and C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl.

6. (Original) A compound as claimed by Claim 5 wherein R2 is arylC₀-C₄alkyl wherein the aryl is phenyl or naphthyl, and the C₀-C₄alkyl is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl and not present, that is C₀ alkyl.

7. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 5 wherein R2 is heteroarylC₀-C₄alkyl, and said heteroarylC₀-C₄alkyl is unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from R2'; and wherein the heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of pyridine, thiazole, benzothiazole, and thiadiazole; and the alkyl is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl and not present, that is C₀ alkyl.

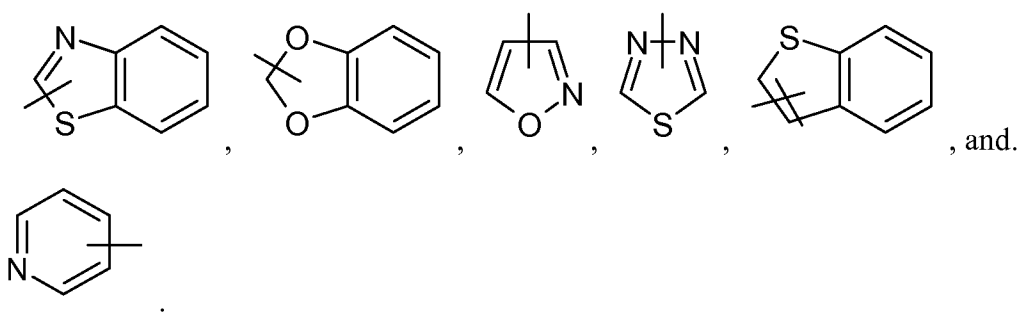
8. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 5 wherein R₂ is arylheteroC₁-C₈alkyl, wherein the arylheteroC₁-C₈alkyl is unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R₂'; wherein the aryl group is phenyl, and the heteroatom is selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur and oxygen.

9. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by of Claim 8 wherein the R₂ group is substituted with one or two substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, t-butyl, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, trifluoromethyl, methoxyl, ethoxyl, phenyl, and phenoxy.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 1, wherein said piperidine and piperazine is fused with a phenyl to form a bicyclic ring.

12. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 1, wherein R₂ is unsubstituted or substituted heteroarylC₀-C₄alkyl; wherein said heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of:



13. (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein R₂ is -CH(C(O)OCH₃)benzyl.

15. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 or Claim 4 wherein R₆ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, and aryl-C₀.

4-alkyl, wherein the alkyl and arylalkyl are each independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R5'.

16. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 15 wherein R5 is H or methyl.

17. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by any one of Claims 1 or Claim 16 wherein R6 is C₁-C₃ alkyl.

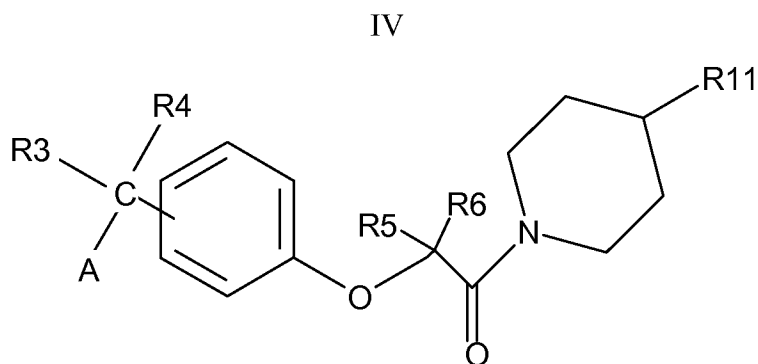
18. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 17, wherein R6 is methyl.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein R5 is hydrogen or methyl, R6 is C₁-C₃ alkyl, and R3 is C₁-C₃alkoxy.

21. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein A is C(O)OR₂₆; R₂₆ is H or C₁-C₃alkyl.

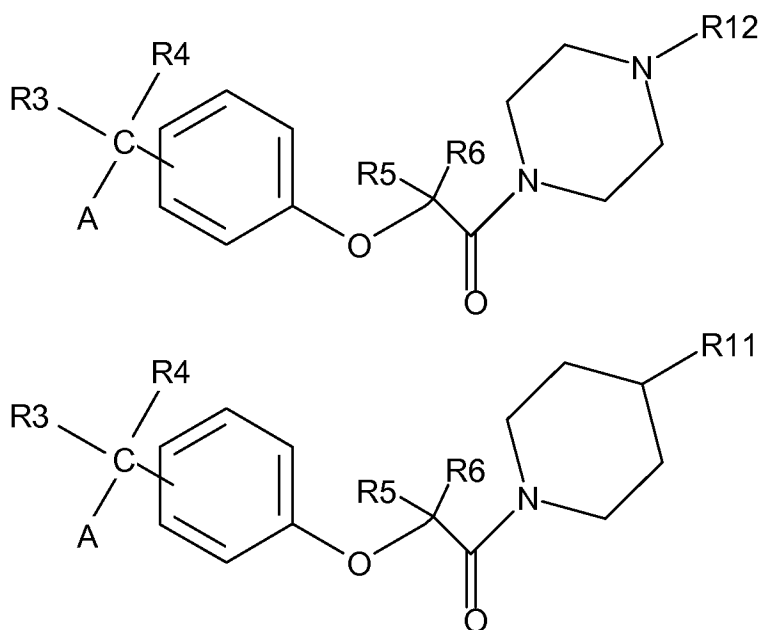
22. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 that is of the structural formula IV:



wherein R11 is selected from the group consisting of aryl, -C(O)aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkoxy, C₁-C₅ alkylaryl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, aryloxy, and C1-C6 alkyl, wherein the aryl, -C(O)aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkoxy, C₁-C₅ alkylaryl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and C1-C6 alkyl are each independently unsubstituted or each independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R1'.

23. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 that is of the structural formula V:

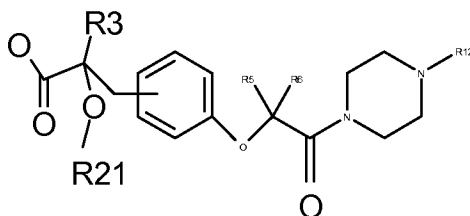
V



wherein R12 is selected from the group consisting of aryl, aryloxy, -C(O)aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkoxy, C₁-C₅ alkylaryl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and C1-C6 alkyl, wherein the aryl, -C(O)aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkoxy, C₁-C₅ alkylaryl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and C1-C6 alkyl are each independently unsubstituted or each independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R1'.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 that is of the structural formula VII:



VII

wherein wherein R12 is selected from the group consisting of aryl, aryloxy, -C(O)aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, arylC₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and C1-C6 alkyl, wherein the aryl, -C(O)aryl, aryloxy, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, C₁-C₅ alkylaryl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and C1-C6 alkyl are each independently unsubstituted or each independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R1'; R25 is selected from the group consisting of C1-C4alkyl, halo, haloC1-C3alkyl, C1-C5 alkoxy, and phenyl.

26. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 which is selected from the group consisting of:

(2S,1'R)-2-Ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(4-phenoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid; (2S,1'R)-2-Ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid; (2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(2-ethoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1'-(3-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1'-(3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[(biphenyl-3-ylmethyl)-carbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[2-(2,6-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[2-(2-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[2-(4-tert-butyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1'-(4-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1'-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-{4-[1'-(4-tert-butyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;(2S,1'R)-3-{4-[1'-(4-tert-butyl-phenylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;(2S,1'R)-3-{4-[1'-(4-trans-tert-butyl-cyclohexylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-{4-[1-(4-tert-butyl-cyclohexylcarbamoyl)-1-methyl-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-methoxy-3-(4-{1-methyl-1-[2-(4-phenoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-ethoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

2-methoxy-3-(4-{1-methyl-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-methoxy-3-{4-[1-methyl-1-(3-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid; (2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[(biphenyl-3-ylmethyl)-carbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1-methyl-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-1-methyl-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;(2S)-3-(4-{1-[(biphenyl-3-ylmethyl)-carbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-{3-[1-(4-tert-butyl-cyclohexylcarbamoyl)-1-methyl-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-{3-[1-(3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-1-methyl-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(3-{1-[(biphenyl-3-ylmethyl)-carbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(3-{1-[2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-methoxy-3-{4-[(1-phenyl-ethylcarbamoyl)-methoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(3-{1-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(3-{1-[2-(2,6-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2,6-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-ethoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(3-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(5-fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(3-phenyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(4-phenoxy-phenylethylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenylethylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

3-(4-{1-[2-(2,6-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

3-(4-{Cyclohexyl-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-methoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-2-phenyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid; and

~~(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1'-(2-thiophen-2-ylethylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid~~; or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

27. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

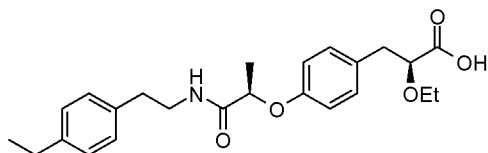
(2S,1'R)-3-{4-[1'-(4-tert-butyl-cyclohexylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

~~(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1'[(thiophen-2-ylmethyl)-carbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid~~;

~~(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1'-(2-thiophen-2-ylethylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid~~; or

pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

28. (Original) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein the compound is



; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and at least one compound as claimed by Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) A method of treating diabetes mellitus in a mammal, comprising the step of administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective

amount of at least one compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

33. (Previously Presented) A method of preventing diabetes mellitus in a mammal, comprising the step of administering to the mammal an effective amount of at least one compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

34. (Previously Presented) A method of treating Syndrome X in a mammal, comprising the step of administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

35. (Canceled)

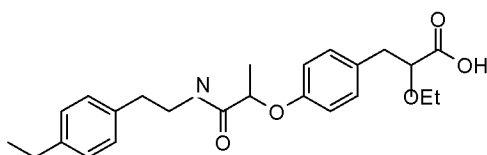
36. (Previously Presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to Claim 1 for use as a medicine.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

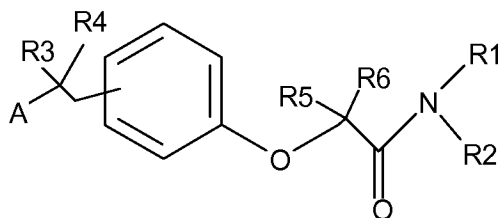
39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) A compound of the formula



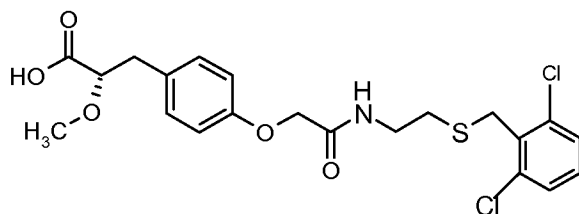
; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

41. (Previously Presented) A Compound of the formula



Wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₄alkyl and arylC₀-C₄alkyl; R2 is selected from the group consisting of arylC₀-C₄alkyl, and heteroarylC₀-C₄alkyl; or a pharmaceutical acceptable salt thereof.

42. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 that is of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

43. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by any one of Claims 1, or 42 wherein the compound is a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

44. (Previously Presented) A compound of Claim 1 that is (2S)-3-(4-{[2-(2,6-dichloro-benzylsulfanyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-methoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid.

45. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and at least one compound as claimed by Claim 42 or 44.